

**Appl. No.** : 09/228,325  
**Filed** : January 11, 1999

## **II. REMARKS**

The Office Action rejected Claims 1, 2 and 5-18. By the foregoing amendments, Applicant has amended Claims 1, 8-10, and 14 and added new Claims 44-53 to further clarify, broaden and/or define the claimed invention, and expedite receiving a notice of allowance. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(f), no new matter is introduced by these amendments. Applicant believes that Claims 1, 2, 5-18 and 44-53 are now in condition for allowance.

## **CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that Claims 1, 2, 5-18 and 44-53 are allowable over the cited references and are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant requests that a Notice of Allowance be promptly issued.

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If any further impediments to allowance of this application remain, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact the undersigned by telephone so that these remaining issues may be promptly resolved.

Respectfully submitted,



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